

LANGUAGE AWARDS

The Agency inaugurated a Language Development Program in February 1957, directed toward the goals of expanding its reservoir of foreign language capabilities as well as establishing a current register of tested abilities. Since then, 3000 persons have been given more than 8,000 foreign language tests by OTR; these objective results are machine-recorded and the Language Qualifications Register is used constantly by OP, OTR, and by Career Boards of other Offices.

As a boost in attaining early progress toward the above goals, a cash awards program was instituted. The cumulative total of cash awards granted is \$614,825 (FY 58 - \$17,500; FY 59 - \$217,175; FY 60 - \$217,575; FY 61 - \$133,225; FY 62 - \$29,350 through 15 October 1961). Awards for achievement or maintenance have gone to about 60% of those tested. Several months ago, the Agency's Language Development Committee recommended that cash awards be discontinued. The Committee felt that 1) sufficient momentum has been given the development of foreign language skills and 2) the command responsibility, as it relates to individual career planning, can now be exercised to assure needed attainment - without a cash bonus. A notice has been prepared alerting all employees that the awards aspect will terminate -- effective in February 1962, on the fifth anniversary of the Language Development Program.

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